



Washington State Board of Massage Business Meeting Minutes September 6, 2024 | 9:00 a.m.

The Board of Massage scheduled a board business meeting held in-person at Hilton Garden Inn, 8401 Paine Field Blvd, Mukilteo, WA 98275 and via Zoom on September 6, 2024.

Board Members

Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair
Heidi Williams, LMT
Lynna Fuller, LMT
Sherise Gueck, LMT
Whitney Smith, LMT

Staff Present

James Chaney, Executive Director
Devin Brooks, Program Manager
Alyssa Brazil, Administrative Assistant
Jonathan Chamrad, Program Support
Kristi Knieps, Assistant Attorney General
Marlon Basco-Rodillas, Policy Analyst
Catharine Roner-Rieter, Staff Attorney
Scott Cho, Budget Analyst

Guests

Darlene Bartlett	Stayce Hale	Chelsea Nenno
Marybeth Berney	Andy Hall	Rebekah Norman
Robbin Blake	Ashley Hernandez	Annie Ochoa
John Casebere	Karen James	Julie Onofrio
Theron Eirish	Betty King	Annika Samuelsen
Leslie Emerick	Kimberly Leufroy	Dorion Smith
Devin Gombosky	Sean Miller	Becky West

OPEN SESSION – 9:10 a.m.

1. Call To Order – Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair

The board meeting was called to order by Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, chair, at 9:01 a.m.

1.1. Introductions and Meeting Ground Rules.

The board, staff and guest panelists were introduced. Ms. Figaire-Correa read the Meeting Ground Rules.

1.2. Approval of the Agenda.

The board reviewed the proposed agenda

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed.

1.3. Approval of the July 18, 2024, Training Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the July 18, 2024, training meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

1.4 Approval of the July 19, 2024, Business Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the July 19, 2024, business meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

2. Public Forum

Members of the public who indicated an interest in speaking provided comments to the board.

Comment shared included:

- Marybeth Berney, from WSMTA, made a request for the board to provide more details on agenda items to allow them to do research in a timely manner and provide feedback.
- Rebecca West, from Idaho Board of Massage, requested information on how to determine if a massage therapist applicant could be denied licensure due to a criminal conviction.

3. Public Petition

The board discussed and formulated a response to the public petition for WAC 246-830-420 (1)(d).

The petition was presented to the board from a licensed professional suggesting decreasing the amount of time needed to become an educator in Washington State.

MOTION: A motion was made to open rules to revise WAC 246-830-420 (1)(d). The motion was not second and did not pass.

4. School Program Reviews – Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT Chair

Reviewing Board Members (RBMs) presented the following school program requests for full board consideration.

- Alexandar School of Natural Therapeutics
The RBMs recommended to approve the Alexandar School of Natural Therapeutics.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve Alexandar School of Natural Therapeutics. The motion was second and passed.

5. Massage applicant

The board reviewed WAC 246-830-201 (2) and determined the next steps for an applicant.

An applicant passed the MBLEx on the 5th attempt. The board reviewed the applicant's education and determined the applicant did not meet WAC 246-830-430 education and training requirements. The applicant will need to complete the education hours to be considered for licensure.

6. Newsletter

The board reviewed the drafted newsletter for final approval.

7. Program Report – Devin Brooks, Program Manager, and Scott Cho, Budget Analyst

7.1. Budget.

- Ms. Brooks, Program Manager, and Scott Cho, Budgets Analyst, gave an update to the board on the current budget.

7.2. Credential Counts.

- Ms. Brooks, Program Manager, gave an update to the board regarding the credentialing counts.

7.3. Disciplinary Counts.

- Ms. Brooks, Program Manager, gave an update to the board regarding the status of the disciplinary counts.

7.4. Future Agenda Items

- Background checks.
- Education and training committee update.
- License by endorsement committee update.
- Jurisprudence exam (JP Exam) committee update.
- Setting 2025 business meetings dates and locations.
- Report on FSMTB 2024 Annual Meeting.
- Potential opening and updating WAC 246-830-560.

8. Adjournment of Public Meeting – Chimere Figaire-Correa, chair

MOTION: A motion was made to adjourn the business meeting at 10:42AM. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Next Business Meeting

Date: November 15, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Washington State Department of Health
111 Israel Rd SE
Tumwater, WA 98501

1. License by Endorsement Committee- Heidi Williams, LMT and Sherise Gueck, LMT Rule Discussion for WAC 246-830-035 Licensing by Endorsement

1.1. Committee members discussed new drafted language for clarification to WAC 246-830-035 (1)(a)(i) to ensure applicants understand that endorsement is tied to the state's licensure requirements; not the program that the applicant completed.

The committee reviewed proposed language and decided to add the direct WAC to education and training to section 3(b) to alleviate confusion on education and training required hours.

1.2. Public Comment – Members of the public will be given the opportunity to address the committee members on this agenda item.

1.3. Committee members scheduled the next committee meeting.

- The committee decided to bring this back to the board at the next meeting.

2. Education and Training Committee- Sherise Gueck, LMT, and Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT

2.1. Public Comment - Members of the public will be given the opportunity to address the committee members on this agenda item.

Comments shared included:

- Theron Eirish made a comment to the committee about his institution using testing facilities. The facilities can proctor the student while testing.
- A comment was made about ethics being taught in person vs. online.

2.2. The committee discussed new language and modifications to WAC 246-830-430 for hybrid learning.

- Committee discussed which aspects of education and training should be in person
- Committee discussed which subjects should be allowed to be tested online
- Committee discussed how the school's attendance policy and makeup policy will need to be revised

2.3. The committee reviewed and discussed input from schools on hybrid learning and online education limitations.

- 13 schools responded to provide feedback
- Consideration is taken to allow certain subjects to have testing online due to classes meeting in person once weekly, for example.
- The committee discussed ethics being taught in person for those who are not yet licensed

2.4. The committee scheduled the next committee meeting

- The committee decided to bring this back to the board at the next business meeting.

3. JP Exam Committee - Lynna Fuller, LMT, and Sherise Gueck, LMT

10.1. Public Comment - Members of the public were given the opportunity to address the committee members on this agenda item.

Comments Shared Included:

- No public comment was given at this time.

10.2. The committee closed the session to review test questions.

Submitted:

Approved:

Devin Brooks, Program Manager

Chimere Figaie-Correa, LMT,
Chair

DRAFT